

A<sub>8</sub>

--35. (NEW) The method according to claim 1, wherein the immobilized particles exhibit hydrophilic groups on their surface.--

--36. (NEW) The method according to claim 7, wherein the particles have a size in the range of 0.1-100  $\mu\text{m}$ --

--37. (NEW) The method according to claim 9, wherein the flow channels have a small inner dimension in the range of 0.4-100  $\mu\text{m}$ --

--38. (NEW) The method according to claim 11, wherein the Reactant\* is predeposited in the matrix upstream of the sample application site.--

--39. (NEW) The kit according to claim 18, wherein the immobilized particles exhibit hydrophilic groups on their surface.--

--40. (NEW) The kit according to claim 24, wherein the particles have a size in the range of 0.1-100  $\mu\text{m}$ --

--41. (NEW) The kit according to claim 26, wherein the flow channels have a small inner dimension in the range of 0.4-100  $\mu\text{m}$ --

#### REMARKS

By the present Amendment, the claims are amended to omit their multiple dependency and for various matters of form in accordance with customary U.S. patent practice. Claims

[illegible]

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